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What is claimed is:

- 1. A stable, sterile soft tissue filler comprising:
- a hyaluronic acid (HA) component comprising HA crosslinked with 1,4-butanediol diglycidyl ether (BDDE), and uncrosslinked HA, wherein the HA component ⁵ comprises greater than about 10% uncrosslinked HA by volume; and

lidocaine at a concentration of about 0.3% by weight of the soft tissue filler combined with the HA component;

wherein the stable, sterile soft tissue filler is made by a process comprising:

providing the HA component;

adjusting the pH of the HA component to an adjusted pH above about 7.2;

adding a solution containing lidocaine to the HA component having the adjusted pH to obtain a soft tissue filler; and

heat sterilizing the soft tissue filler to obtain a stable, sterile soft tissue filler.

- 2. The soft tissue filler of claim 1, wherein the HA component comprises at least about 15% uncrosslinked HA by volume.
- 3. The soft tissue filler of claim 1, wherein the HA component comprises at least about 20% uncrosslinked HA 25 by volume.
- **4**. The soft tissue filler of claim **1**, wherein the HA component comprises particles of crosslinked HA in a relatively fluidic medium of uncrosslinked HA.
- **5**. The soft tissue filler of claim **1**, wherein the adjusting 30 the pH comprises adjusting the pH above about 7.5.
- 6. The soft tissue filler of claim 1, wherein the step of providing a HA component comprises providing dry uncrosslinked NaHA material and hydrating the dry uncrosslinked NaHA material in an alkaline solution to obtain an 35 alkaline, NaHA gel.
- 7. The soft tissue filler of claim 6, wherein the alkaline NaHA gel has a pH greater than about 8.0.
- **8**. The soft tissue filler of claim **6**, wherein the alkaline NaHA gel has a pH greater than about 10.0.
 - 9. A stable, sterile soft tissue filler comprising:
 - a hyaluronic acid (HA) component comprising HA crosslinked with 1,4-butanediol diglycidyl ether (BDDE), and uncrosslinked HA; and
 - lidocaine at a concentration of about 0.3% by weight of 45 the soft tissue filler combined with the crosslinked HA component:

wherein the soft tissue filler is stable after heat sterilization at between about 120° C. and about 130° C.;

wherein the soft tissue filler has a pH of about 7; and wherein the stable, sterile soft tissue filler is made by a process comprising:

providing the HA component crosslinked with BDDE; adding a solution containing lidocaine to the HA component crosslinked with BDDE to obtain a soft tissue 55 filler; and

heat sterilizing the soft tissue filler to obtain a stable, sterile soft tissue filler.

- 10. The soft tissue filler of claim 9, wherein the HA component comprises at least about 15% uncrosslinked HA $_{60}$ by volume.
- 11. The soft tissue filler of claim 9, wherein the HA component comprises at least about 20% uncrosslinked HA by volume.
- 12. The soft tissue filler of claim 9, wherein the HA 65 component comprises particles of crosslinked HA in a relatively fluidic medium of uncrosslinked HA.

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- 13. The soft tissue filler of claim 9, wherein the process further comprises adjusting the pH of the HA component to an adjusted pH above about 7.5.
- 14. The soft tissue filler of claim 9, wherein the step of providing a HA component crosslinked with BDDE comprises the steps of providing dry uncrosslinked NaHA material and hydrating the dry uncrosslinked NaHA material in an alkaline solution to obtain an alkaline, uncrosslinked NaHA gel.
- **15**. The soft tissue filler of claim **14**, wherein the alkaline uncrosslinked NaHA gel has a pH greater than about 8.0.
- **16**. The soft tissue filler of claim **14**, wherein the alkaline uncrosslinked NaHA gel has a pH greater than about 10.0.
- 17. A sterile, stable injectable soft tissue filler composition comprising:
 - a mixture of soluble form hyaluronic acid (HA), crosslinked HA, and lidocaine in an amount effective to mitigate pain upon injection of the composition, the crosslinked HA being crosslinked with 1,4-butanediol diglycidyl ether (BDDE);
 - the composition having a HA concentration of between about 20 mg/ml and about 30 mg/ml;
 - wherein the sterile, stable injectable soft tissue filler composition is made by a process comprising:

providing the soluble form HA and crosslinked HA; adjusting the pH of the soluble form HA and crosslinked HA:

adding a solution containing lidocaine to the soluble form HA and crosslinked HA having the adjusted pH to obtain a HA-based injectable soft tissue filler composition; and

heat sterilizing the HA-based injectable soft tissue filler composition to obtain the sterile, stable injectable soft tissue filler composition.

- 18. The soft tissue filler composition of claim 17, wherein the soluble form HA and crosslinked HA comprises at least about 15% soluble form HA by volume.
- 19. The soft tissue filler composition of claim 17, whereinthe soluble form HA and crosslinked HA comprises at least about 20% soluble form HA by volume.
 - 20. The soft tissue filler composition of claim 17, wherein the soluble form HA and crosslinked HA comprises particles of crosslinked HA in a relatively fluidic medium of the soluble form HA.
 - 21. The soft tissue filler composition of claim 17, wherein the adjusting the pH comprises adjusting the pH above about 7.5
- 22. The soft tissue filler composition of claim 17, wherein the step of providing the soluble form HA and crosslinked HA comprises the steps of providing dry uncrosslinked NaHA material and hydrating the dry uncrosslinked NaHA material in an alkaline solution to obtain an alkaline uncrosslinked NaHA gel.
 - 23. The soft tissue filler composition of claim 22, wherein the alkaline uncrosslinked NaHA gel has a pH greater than about 8.0.
 - **24**. The soft tissue filler composition of claim **22**, wherein the alkaline uncrosslinked NaHA gel has a pH greater than about 10.0.
 - ${\bf 25}.$ A sterile, stable injectable soft tissue filler composition comprising:
 - a mixture of soluble form hyaluronic acid (HA), crosslinked HA, and lidocaine in an amount effective to mitigate pain upon injection of the composition, the crosslinked HA being crosslinked with 1,4-butanediol diglycidyl ether (BDDE); and